



Federal agencies that conduct and deliver public safety services can subscribe to the network. For example, agency components conducting missions such as law enforcement, homeland security, border security and disaster response operations are integral parts of the public safety stakeholder community and can subscribe to FirstNet as primary users.

The FirstNet network will provide federal departments and agencies with streamlined interoperability to execute their missions while working with public safety officials at all levels of government. FirstNet will provide coverage solutions that allow federal subscribers and other public safety users to use the network when and where they need it.

FirstNet aims to provide federal agencies with operational value and efficiencies by delivering secure, resilient, interoperable public safety wireless broadband beyond what a commercial provider may offer.

MOBILE APPLICATIONS



FirstNet-APCO Collaborate on Applications

FirstNet's applications group, based in Boulder, Colorado, has been working with the Association of Public Safety Communications Officials (APCO) International to foster emerging applications for public safety. Participants in APCO's third technology workshop called for developers to create a tool for testing new apps for interoperability and cybersecurity on FirstNet's network.

"The excitement surrounding FirstNet is not only in its broadband capabilities, which will be a game-changer, but also in the competition for public safety apps that we expect it to spark," FirstNet Chief Technology Officer Jeff Bratcher said. "If FirstNet can help foster that kind of technical innovation, we will open up a new world in which first responders are more prepared, safer, and in better positions to serve the public based on the apps they will be able to access."

Vehicle Applications Expected to Reduce Crashes

Of all the new technology coming onto the market, one that is getting a lot of attention for those in public safety is vehicle-to-vehicle crash avoidance.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration in December proposed a rule that would mandate V2V communication on vehicles, allowing cars to communicate with each other to avoid crashes.

Once fully deployed, the crash avoidance applications could prevent hundreds of thousands of crashes every year by allowing vehicles to "communicate" with each other, NHTSA officials.

The V2V and V2I applications are expected to reduce or mitigate as much as 80 percent of non-impaired crashes, officials said. Read more about vehicle safety applications from [NHTSA.gov](http://www.nhtsa.gov).

About FirstNet

FirstNet will bring 21st century tools to millions of organizations and individuals that respond to emergencies at the local, state, tribal and federal levels. Learn more at www.firstnet.gov and <http://firstnet.vi.gov>

FirstNet Board will convene an open public teleconference Special Board Meeting on Tuesday, March 28, 2017, at 9:00 AM EST.

Members of the public may listen to the meeting by dialing toll free 1-877-960-9067 and using passcode 2095167#.



2017 State Plans Consultation

Following the contract award by FirstNet for the Nationwide Public Safety Broadband Network (NPSBN), FirstNet and its partner will work to deliver individual State Plans detailing the proposed network deployment. Once delivered, the governor will have 90 days to decide regarding the Radio Access Network (RAN) deployment. When states and territories receive their customized State Plans in 2017, FirstNet will continue to work with the SPOCs to prepare them for the governors' decisions. States are encouraged to stay updated on the latest FirstNet news and deployment plans by visiting FirstNet.gov and FirstNet's [YouTube channel](#) to watch tutorials on FirstNet State Plans key considerations.

Next Steps – State Plan Consultation

FirstNetVI will be assembling a team of Subject matter expert (SMEs) to review the State-Plan and provide feedback to the Governor. This team will be comprised of Legal, Economic, Financial, Information Technology, Communications, and Public Safety SMEs.



Court rules in favor of FirstNet in award protest action

On Friday March 17th, the U.S. Court of Federal Claims ruled in favor of FirstNet in the protest action regarding the acquisition process for the nationwide public safety broadband network:

“We are pleased with the Court’s decision. This is a positive development for FirstNet and the public safety community. FirstNet intends to move expeditiously to finalize the contract for the nationwide public safety broadband network.” – Mike Poth, FirstNet’s CEO

Trump’s Budget Would Continue Support for “Next-Generation Wireless Services”

According to the budget text, Trump’s plan “continues to support the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) in representing the United States interest at multi-stakeholder forums on internet governance and digital commerce.” Additionally, the budget “supports the commercial sector’s development of next generation wireless services by funding NTIA’s mission of evaluating and ensuring the efficient use of spectrum by government users.”

The exact details of Trump’s plan to support new wireless services remains unclear.

NTIA is part of the Department of Commerce. It manages federal use of spectrum and identifies additional spectrum for commercial use; develops policy on issues related to the “internet economy,” including online privacy, copyright protection, and cybersecurity; and performs telecommunications research and engineering with government and private sector partners.